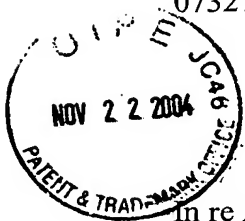


IFW

ATTORNEY DOCKET NUMBER
073275.0146

PATENT
10/645,739



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Shaher A. Ahmad
Serial No.: 10/645,739
Filing Date: August 21, 2003
Group Art Unit: 3743
Title: BONE ANCHOR SYSTEM

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Laurel Scott
Name

11-18-04
Date of Signature

REQUEST FOR STATUS

Please advise the status of the above-identified patent application. The Filing Receipt was received November 20, 2003. Applicant is currently awaiting a first Office Action.

REMARKS

Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.702(a)(1), it has been over fourteen months since the filing date of this Application and neither a Notification under 35 U.S.C. § 132 nor a Notice of Allowance under 35 U.S.C. § 151 have been received. Thus, a period of adjustment of patent term due to examination delay is accruing in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.703(a)(1).

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If there are any matters that can be resolved through a telephone conference, please contact the undersigned attorney for Applicant at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,
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